



Staff Sgt. Chester Bailey, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade Support Battalion checks the purity of the water from the ROWPU system June 22 at Camp Ramadi. See story on Page 3A.

Bull Run disrupts insurgent activity

Special to the Frontline

FORWARD OPERATING BASE HAMMER, Iraq – Operation Bull Run and Operation Blore Heath II were conducted with the Iraqi national police and the Iraqi army. Both operations are a part of Multi-National Division-Center’s Operation Marne Torch, the latest Coalition Force initiative to eliminate insurgent sanctuaries southeast of Baghdad.

Two insurgents were killed and seven were detained during operations in Al Dura’iya.

The 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team completed two simultaneous operations in a 48-hour period in Al Dura’iya June 24.

Soldiers from 1/15 Inf. neutralized sus-

pected enemy cache sites and denied insurgents safe haven in Al Dura’iaya. The operation resulted in two insurgents being killed and four individuals being detained.

Three caches were found. The caches consisted of artillery rounds, mortars, cell phones, weapons, propaganda, ammunition magazines, and other bomb-making materials.

Operation Blore Heath II, spearheaded by Iraqi army soldiers in conjunction with Iraqi 1st National Police Brigade and indirect fire assets from the 3rd HBCT, cleared insurgent caches south of Salman Pak and southeast of Baghdad. Three individuals were detained, mortar rounds and command wire were found, two boats and one vehicle destroyed, and two vehicles were confiscated.

1/41 FA test fires new munitions

Spc. Ricardo Branch
1st BCT Public Affairs

HABBANIYAH, Iraq – As the sun set earlier this month, the Soldiers from B Battery, 1st Battalion, 41st Field Artillery were the first in Iraq to test the Army’s newest Paladin round designed to reduce collateral damage during combat.

The Excalibur round, a new type of precision guided 155 mm projectile, was tested near Habbaniyah June 9.

“This round will give us more opportunities to provide fire support for troops-in-contact operating in a complex urban

environment,” said 1st Lt. Quintin Durden, a platoon leader with B Btry. “Before we fielded the Excalibur, we were unable to fire artillery into urban terrain for fear of collateral damage.”

Now with the new round, artillerymen will require fewer munitions and time to respond to threats in their area of operations from its GPS guided targeting system.

“It makes the round fired considerably more accurate,” said 2nd Lt. Hunter Gallacher, fire directions officer with Btry. B. “It makes things easier on the gun line by reducing the number of rounds required to accomplish the mission.”

EXCALIBUR See Page 6A

Value added with new commander

Nancy Gould
Hunter Public Affairs

Hunter Army Airfield’s newest garrison commander, Lt. Col. Daniel Whitney, didn’t grow up in a military environment. But the moves his Family made to support his father’s General Motors career taught him adaptability; the same skill many military children glean from their numerous military moves. Discipline was also taught to his four brothers and sister by his father, as well as his mother, who grew up on a ranch and was the oldest child of 13. The discipline and toughness developed from that Family dynamic became the cornerstone of success in Whitney’s life.

Whitney’s ‘can do’ attitude developed the career path the U.S. Army special operations

officer started in 1988 after graduating from the University of Texas. His service began with the 101st Airborne Division as a rifle platoon leader and reconnaissance platoon leader for 42 months. He attended the Special Forces Detachment Officer’s Qualification Course in 1993 and served as the detachment commander for Special Forces Operational Detachment - Alpha 775 (Scuba) with the 7th Special Forces Group at Fort Bragg, N.C. for the next 36 months.

Whitney said he’s privileged to be chosen from 26 candidates for his newest challenge — to serve as the garrison commander of Hunter Army Airfield. He views it as his opportunity to give something back to the U.S. Army for the great years and unique experiences he’s had during his career.



Lt. Col. Daniel Whitney

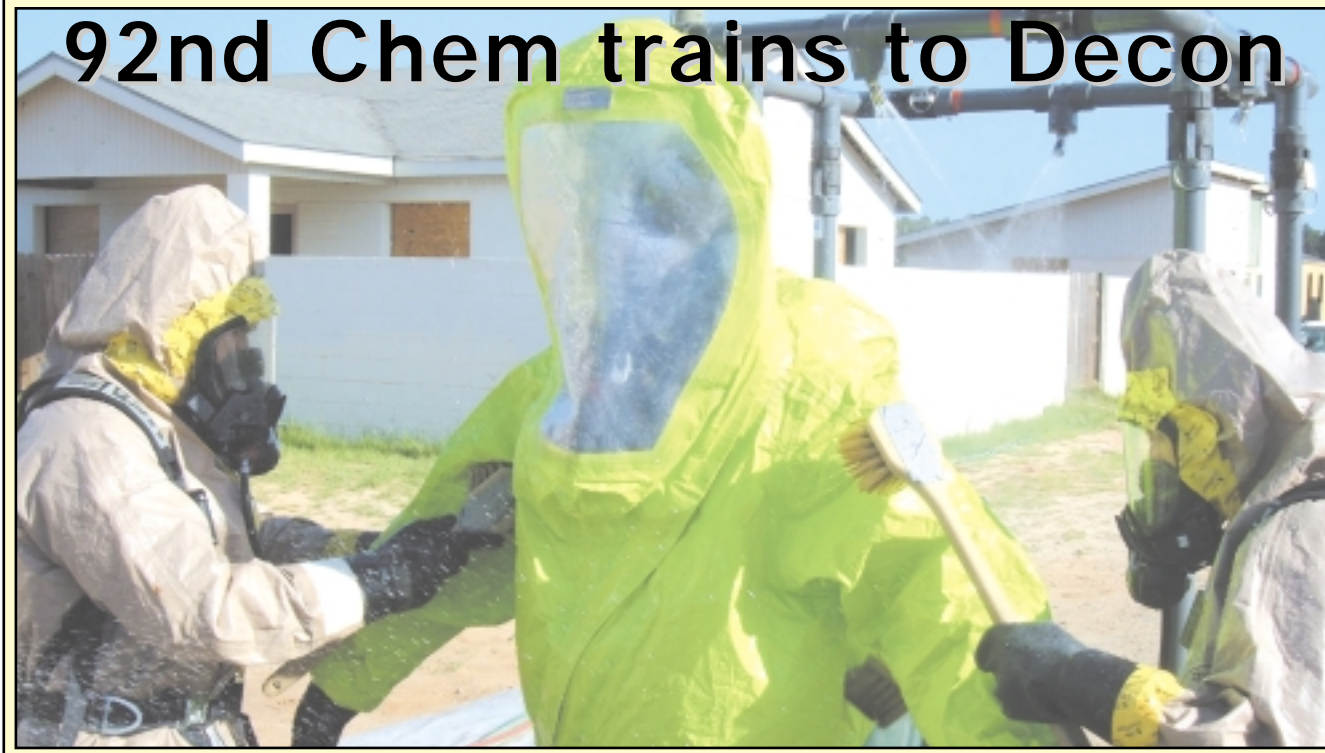
HUNTER See Page 8A

Apache pilots train to fight

Nondice Powell
Hunter Public Affairs

Crashing an Apache helicopter is never something a pilot would want to do, but it is a possibility the pilot needs to be prepared for. The Longbow Crew Trainer, or LCT, is a way Soldiers are able to prepare for any challenges that come their way.

APACHE See Page 10A



92nd Chemical Company Soldiers conduct decontamination training during a hazardous material training exercise June 28 at Fort Stewart. See story on page 6A.



3BCT clinic
heals wounds,
relations, See
Page 8A

Check out the
education
opportunities at
Stewart-Hunter, See
Page 11A

Stewart-
Hunter
civilian helps
save
friend’s life,
See Page 1B



Marne 6 Sends Remember safety in all your activities

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch
3rd Inf. Div. commanding general

Summer can be such a great time to spend with our loved ones, but it can also be a time of accidents. Safety while enjoying summer pastimes is important.

We all love spending time at the beach and going to the pool, but we should always swim with others and keep an eye out for the little ones just learning to swim. We should never mix alcohol and swimming, nor boating and swimming. When taking boats out, we should always have enough life preservers and make sure everyone can swim.

Grilling is also one of the best things to do in the summer. Getting all the neighbors together for a cookout is one of the biggest symbols of summer. When we grill we need to ensure that we do so safely – watch the small children and make sure fires do not get out of control.

Drinking and driving is never acceptable. Soldiers should always be able to call a buddy, and Family members need to have a transportation plan before drinking away from home. Last summer



we lost too many Soldiers to drunk driving accidents; it would be shame to lose someone to something so preventable. It only takes one phone call.

Sweating in the summer sun can also cause dehydration. We need to ensure we are drinking fluids throughout the day in order to stay properly hydrated. Kids playing sports need to drink fluids before and after practice.

Fireworks safety is also important. Although Fourth of July is behind us, fireworks are fun to use throughout the

summer. Never use home fireworks without a bucket of water nearby.

This seemingly simple checklist is just the first step in summer safety – the second is to follow through. Check your friends and your Family to ensure they are behaving safely. As the Army says, “everyone is a safety officer.” Never be afraid to call someone out on an unsafe act. What seems like fun at the time might turn into a disaster in a number of seconds.

We’re fighting our hardest over here in Iraq to protect the way of life of the American people. It would be a tragedy to lose someone to a preventable accident.

Rock of the Marne!

Soldier receives Soldier’s Medal, promotion

Pfc. Monica Smith
CAB Public Affairs

BAGHDAD –A chief warrant officer from Hunter Army Airfield, was awarded the Soldier’s Medal for his life-saving efforts.

Chief Warrant Officer John Pratt, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment, received the Soldier’s Medal from Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, 3rd Infantry Division commander, at Camp Striker, Baghdad.

Pratt, while on temporary duty in Florida, and another Soldier came upon a minivan that had only moments prior been involved in a car wreck on a bridge. The two stopped and began attending to the one passenger who was unconscious and bleeding.

Pratt looked over the side of the bridge and saw a dual-cab pickup truck lying upside down approximately 60 feet below. Two people were inside the truck, while another lay nearby. The contents from the bed of the truck were burning in a bramble bush.

Pratt, along with four other military officers, two U.S. Army lieutenants, and two Hungarian lieutenants, made their way to the vehicle and began treating the occupants while battling flames.

They learned the vehicle carried ammunition which sporadically fired off as Pratt and the others treated the victims.

“One of the second lieutenants was saying, ‘Reminds me of Baghdad,’ and I didn’t

really grasp what he meant,” said Pratt.

“I heard the snaps and pops but I thought it was all the branches burning. We asked the guy if there were any live ammunition, and he said ‘yeah there’s a bunch of (.22-caliber bullets) in the back of the truck.’ I just stayed low.”

Pratt and the others continued to work using fire extinguishers to keep the fire at bay.

Eventually a fire hose was lowered from the bridge’s edge and Pratt and another person at the scene used it to extinguish the flames.

“I only did what any of us in here would have done,” Pratt said. “I did what a Soldier is trained to do.”

Pratt said the award ceremony was an unexpected honor and surprise.

“This is one of the most ornate and special events of my career,” he said.

Pratt was also promoted to Chief Warrant Officer 5 by Lynch.

“This shows years of dedication,” said Lynch of the promotion.

“I am proud to do this on behalf of a grateful nation.”

Pratt, a helicopter pilot thanked his Family saying, “All of our loved ones made sacrifices and put in the extra effort that allows us to do the things we need to do.”

The Soldier’s Medal is awarded to any person of Armed Forces of the United States, or of a friendly foreign nation, who shows heroism by risking personal danger or risk to life not involving conflict with an armed enemy.



Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Mills

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, commander, 3rd Inf. Div., pins the Soldier’s Medal on Chief Warrant Officer John Pratt July 1. Pratt was awarded the medal for heroism while helping several people involved in a car wreck in Florida last April. Lynch also pinned the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 5 on Pratt just before giving him the medal.

A moment in Marne history...

3rd Inf Div train, head for Normandy

Sasha McBrayer
Fort Stewart Museum

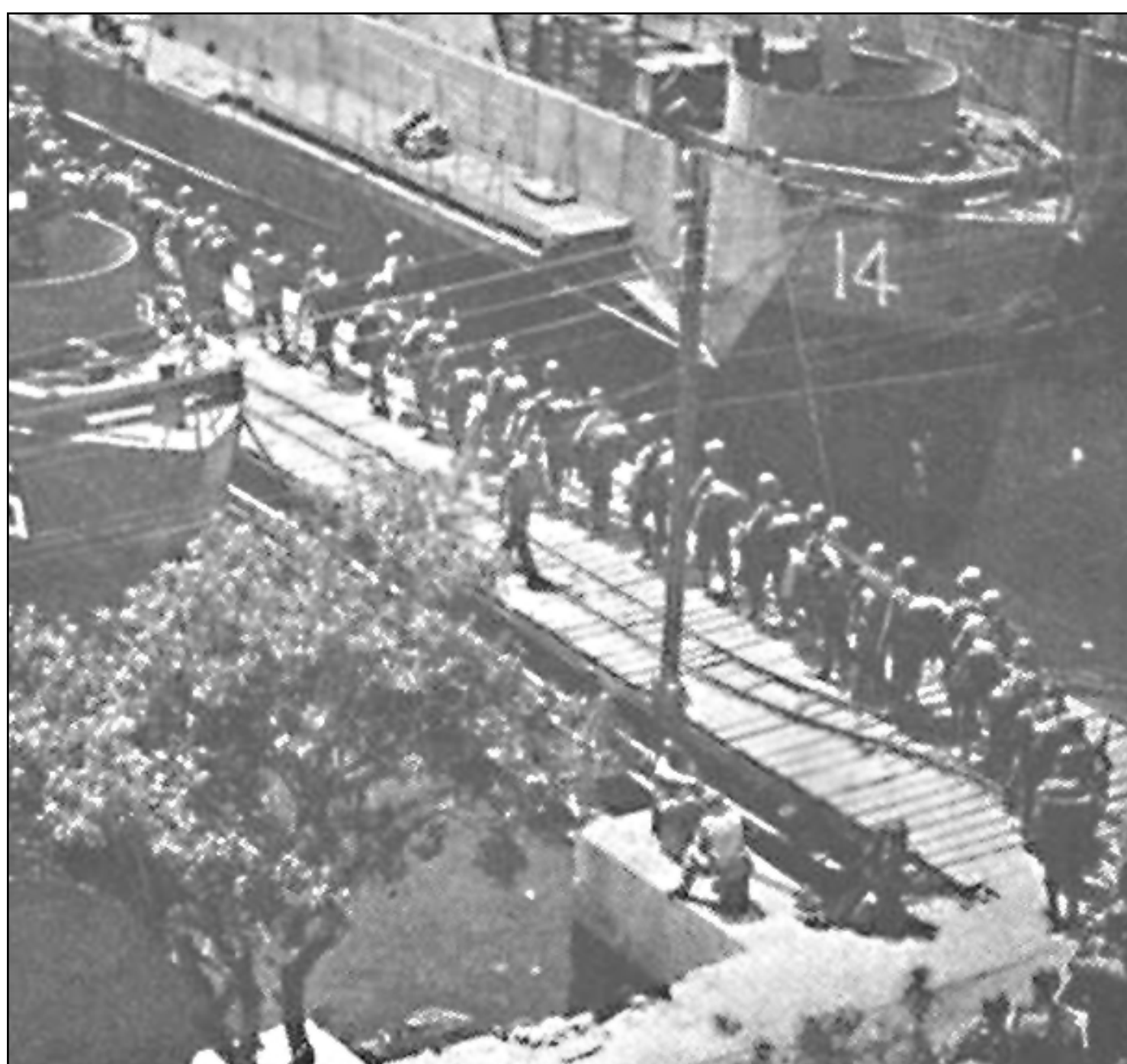
By July of 1943 the 3rd Infantry Division was planted in the North African Theater.

They trained for several weeks as if practicing for the days to come. They were concentrated around Tunisia, the northernmost country in Africa, positioned along the Atlas mountain range, a place of desert sand and Mediterranean coastline. Operation Copybook, the official rehearsal taking Sicily, was said to have been so realistic that many participants were convinced the true action was already unraveling. Still, landing crafts remained on the North African beach the morning after, as proof that the enterprise had only been a serious preparation exercise.

Thankfully, Operation Copybook illuminated little flaws that the Division, along with some Navy counterparts, was able to fix before zero hour. Afterward, special care was taken so that Marne men would achieve proper rest before the culmination of their plans would occur. Drill hours were cut, time was provided for periods of recreation. However, physical conditioning as whole did continue so that the Division would be prepared to meet the standards that the coming battle would require.

It was a hot day when the tanned members of the Division gathered to stage a review. July 4, 1943 saw many men decorated for their heroic roles during the Fedala landing. Then, General Lucian Truscott, a Dog Face Soldier, who had faced the Germans once before during WWI, gave a speech.

Brief and to the point, Truscott instilled a fighting spirit with his words. He said, “You are going to meet the ‘Boche’! Carve your name in his face!” By then, the WWI, French-inspired name for the Germans, ‘Boche’, had become antiquated. The charge was none-the-less affective, however, and the following morning the 3rd Inf. Div. loaded invasion convoys. D-Day followed. The Division did carve their name into Europe, and eventually the Axis was defeated.



3rd Infantry Division load up and head for training in North Africa, July 1943.

Courtesy Photo

Purification team quenches Iraqis' thirst



Staff Sgt. Chester Bailey, HHC, 3rd BSB starts the generator to the ROWPU system June 22 at Camp Ramadi.

Spc. Ricardo Branch
1st BCT Public Affairs

CAMP RAMADI, Iraq – Sweat drips off his face, but he continues to do his mission. Even when the temperature rises above 100 degrees Fahrenheit, he goes about checking the hoses, looking over gauges, and ensuring water flows so the Iraqi troops have water.

For the Iraqis protecting the city, the need for water is being met by a team of Soldiers with a tool to help purify water from the Euphrates River.

“You can only survive without food for a week, but with water it’s only three days,” said Staff Sgt. Chester Bailey, water purification team noncommissioned officer in charge. “This makes our job crucial to getting water out there to the people.”

Better known by the acronym ROWPU, the reverse osmosis water purification unit is responsible for providing clean water to the Iraqi security forces operating in Ramadi.

“We were brought in to help the city,” Bailey said.

“The city’s water system has been devastated by improvised explosive devices throughout the years so if you were to turn on the system today you’d probably have fountains in parts of Ramadi.”

Bailey, is just one of five Soldiers from the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade Support Battalion with the mission to bring fresh water to Iraqis.

The Soldiers began their mis-

sion May 22, producing 9,000 gallons of clean, drinkable water. In less than 30 days time, the Soldiers increased their production to 49,000 gallons – more than five times their original output.

“We get the water through the Euphrates, which goes into the 12 membranes that take all the chemicals and minerals out of the water,” Bailey said.

“After that it gets pumped into a container to be distributed to Iraqis and U.S. Forces at Camp Ali, Camp Defender and others places around the city.”

“We were brought in to help the city. The city’s water system has been devastated by improvised explosive devices throughout the years.”

Staff Sgt. Chester Bailey
HHC, 3rd BSB

stststststst come to work at dawn and leave before sunset to produce enough water for the Iraqi Security Forces in the city.

“This work here helps us win over some of the people in Ramadi,”

said Spc. Travis Shipley. “The water we produce is also going to people in downtown Ramadi (through the ISF).

He added, “This water is also twice as clean as what they’ve been used to living off of.”

The previous unit from 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armor Division provided water for the Iraqis but it was eventually stopped.

A larger Iraqi security force needed fresh water, which made the current water purification team come aboard.

“I was given this task and I’m going to make sure it’s done,” Bailey said.

“Until the Iraqis are able to rebuild their own water system, we’re going to provide this water for them.”



Pfc. Jeff Rhey Bell, HHC, 3rd BSB tightens the tubes of the ROWPU system June 22 at Camp Ramadi.



Above: The water gauge displays the purity of the water from the Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit System.



Left: Spc. Juan Rosa, HHC, 3rd BSB, checks the gauges and pipes of the Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit System June 22 at Camp Ramadi, Iraq. The 1st BCT water purification team is contributing to the well-being of Iraqis by providing them purified water that has been contaminated over the years from improvised explosive devices and other chemicals.

IMCOM advises summer safety

Brig. Gen. John A. Macdonald
Deputy Commanding General

Recently, a second lieutenant attending the Army Engineering School and an Installation Management Command civilian employee at Fort Leonard Wood drowned during the same weekend at Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri.

The lieutenant had been swimming with friends at Anderson Hollow Cove, commonly known to locals as "Party Cove." When the group got ready to leave at approximately 6 p.m., they noticed that the lieutenant was not with them. Missouri water patrol divers using sonar later found the victim's body in 12 feet of water. The Water Patrol determined that the victim could swim, but it was not known if he was wearing a personal flotation device. Can you imagine the pall over the Basic Officer Leadership Course class on Monday?

The following day, a 21-year-old Army civilian was found drowned approximately

10 feet from the dock where he was last seen. He had been playing cards with two other men who left him alone at 1 a.m. to go to bed. The victim's body was recovered by divers using sonar later that day. The water patrol determined that the victim was not a capable swimmer, and was not wearing a personal flotation device. And the same sense of loss for this young Soldier's Family and his division.

A Missouri water patrol officer told local media reporters that there was evidence that both victims had consumed alcohol prior to drowning.

So what can we learn from these tragic losses?

That despite what chemists would argue,

ALCOHOL AND WATER DO NOT MIX! We do not know the exact details of either accident, yet local law enforcement has stated that there was some evidence that both victims had been drinking prior to their deaths. We all know that alcohol is a chemical depressant. It affects judgment, caution and inhibitions. Alcohol slows motor skills and reaction times, and causes loss of balance. Simply stated,

alcohol takes away all of the defense mechanisms an individual needs to stay

alive in, on, or around recreational waterways. The same set of conditions that on land might result in a hangover and an embarrassing story the next day, will often spell tragedy on the water.

Please get this word out to the troops. Instruct them to be careful around the water and to look out for their buddies. Please let them know that for just a wee bit more care, for one word of warning or one extra check they will have so much less chance of a tragic loss that leaves an organization stymied and in shock. Remind them that they cannot be responsible buddies when they are impaired by alcohol. And lastly, tell them to wear a personal flotation device, or a life vest, whenever practical on the water. Let's do our best to keep our Soldiers, Civilians and Army Family members safe this upcoming holiday weekend and throughout the remainder of the 101 Critical Days of Summer.

Thanks for all you do for Soldiers and Families every day.



Army efforts help save the bald eagle from endangerment

Special to the Frontline

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. - The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced today the removal of the bald eagle from the list of threatened and endangered species.

The action, called a delisting, comes about because the nation's symbol has recovered to the point that it no longer needs protection afforded by the Endangered Species Act. It will become effective July 28, 30 days after publication of the final rule in the Federal Register.



Courtesy Photo

The bald eagle was removed from the endangered species list effective July 28.

Army environmental stewardship efforts played an important role in bringing the bald eagle back from the brink of extinction, according to Michael Dette, chief of natural resources at the U.S. Army Environmental Command.

Fort Stewart and 57 other Army installations report bald eagles living on or near its properties. In fact, the bald eagle has been the most common threatened or endangered species reported on Army installations.

"Since 1993, a pair of bald eagles has nested on Fort Stewart near Pineview Lake, where they can often be seen fishing. They have successfully fledged at least one eaglet every year except one," said Tim Beaty, Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Fish and Wildlife supervisor. "We are proud that the installation has helped to contribute to the eagle's recovery."

The species rebounded in the last 40 years, largely due to the government's banning of DDT in 1972 and the protections provided by listing the bald eagles the Endangered Species Act. Based on the most recent population figures, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates there are at least 9,789 nesting pairs of bald eagles in the contiguous United States.

"Removing the bald eagle, the symbol of our country, from the list of threatened and endangered species is a great environmental triumph. It provides a tangible example of how far our nation and its military have progressed as environmental stewards," said Col. Michael P. O'Keefe, commander of the U.S. Army Environmental Command.

Army installations apply a number of different natural resource-management practices to protect the bald eagle and its habitat, according to Dette. Typically, garrison staffs work to maintain and improve forested habitat for both breeding and non-breeding eagles, minimize human disturbance in nesting and wintering areas, maintain and improve the availability and quality of food supplies, and minimize direct hazards to bald eagles. Installations identify special management areas around eagle nests, and evaluate proposed activities within these areas for impacts on the bald eagle population.

For example, on some installations, forest management, harvest and thinning activities are limited to mid-July through mid-December to prevent disruptions to nesting eagles. Army forest-management practices, such as timber rotation and the retention of snags, also improve eagle-nesting habitat.

In addition, Army wildlife specialists pay special attention to the potential for electrocution or collisions with power or communication lines, installing deflectors, avoidance devices, insulators or perch guards where there is a risk to eagles.

"Bald eagles thrive on our installations because of decades of sound stewardship practiced by Army Soldiers and Civilians. This success story highlights just one of many innovative and diligent efforts going on every day to sustain our precious natural resources," Col. O'Keefe said.

The Army successfully protects more than 170 threatened and endangered species on its installations, to include the red cockaded woodpecker and the gray wolf. The Army and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service celebrated the recovery of the red cockaded woodpecker population on Fort Bragg last summer, five years ahead of schedule.

While the bald eagle has been removed from the list of threatened and endangered species, it will continue to be managed under both the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. On June 5, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service opened a 90-day public comment period on a proposal to create a permit program to authorize limited "take," or accidental killing or injury, of bald and golden eagles where the take is associated with, and not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities.

When America formally adopted the bald eagle as the national symbol in 1782, as many as 100,000 nested in what would become the lower 48 states. By 1963, though, only 417 nesting pairs remained and the species was in danger of extinction.

Loss of habitat, shooting for feathers and poisoning by the pesticide DDT all contributed to its near extinction.

If you have questions, comments or story ideas, call the Frontline Staff at:

767-5669

Marne Voices Speak Out

What Independence Day message do you have for deployed Soldiers?

"Thank you for serving our country, and may all the prayers and blessings be with you."

Tempie Mathew
Family member



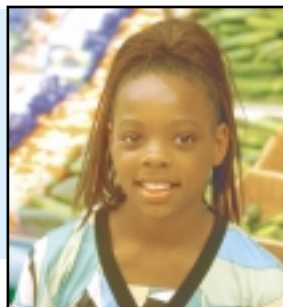
"If it was not for them, I wouldn't be here now. God bless you and keep up the good work."

Sonya Bonner
Family member



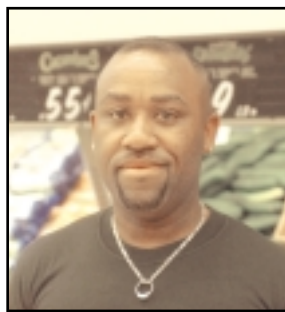
"Thank you."

Janece Herndon
Family member



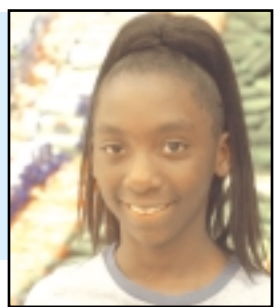
"God speed and come home safely,"

Rushell Suggs
Army retired



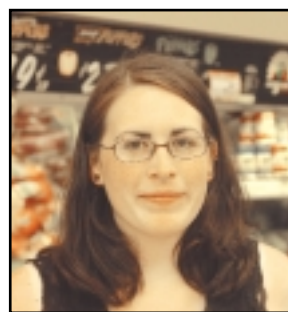
"Thank you. And, I hope you all come back home safely."

Jmesha Herndon
Family member



"We appreciate everything you all are doing for us."

Monique Myers
Family member



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Write a letter to the editor!

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ADVERTISING: (912) 368-0526
THE Frontline OFFICE: 767-5669

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Department of the Army, under exclusive written contract with Fort Stewart, Georgia. The civilian printer is responsible for commercial advertising. Subscription rates are \$12 - 3 months, \$20 - six months and \$36 for 12 months. Rates are Third Class mail inside the continental U.S.

Office, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314-5000. All editorial content of the Frontline newspaper is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Public Affairs Office of Fort Stewart, Georgia and the 3rd Infantry Division and is printed by Morris Newspaper Corporation of Hinesville, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the



1/15 Soldiers strengthen ties with Salman Pak



Spc. Ben Hutto

Spc. Ben Hutto
3rd HBCT Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE

HAMMER, Iraq – Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment stationed at a combat outpost in Salman Pak are getting know the town's citizens up close and personal.

The Soldiers are spending more time these days interacting with the Salman Pak citizens during dismounted patrols, allowing them to better determine friend from foe.

Maj. Steve Delgado, the executive officer for 1/15 Inf., explained that Soldiers live amongst the people they are trying to assist, and are able to respond to threats quicker than if they were living on Forward Operating Base Hammer miles away. Living in Salman Pak also helps the

1/15 Inf. Soldiers understand their environment better.

"This helps us in two ways," Delgado said.

"One, we become closer to the populace by sharing some of the same experiences and trials as they do, and it helps us think like the threat force. We now know where they live, hide, run to and attack."

All of this information has been very helpful to 1/15 during Operation Marne Torch, a Multi-National Division-Center operation which aims to eliminate insurgent sanctuaries southeast of Baghdad.

"We have been extremely successful in accomplishing our purpose for this operation, disrupting the extremists' activities, and denying them safe havens," Delgado said.

"We have accomplished this by

conducting numerous operations which have uncovered a plethora of caches, and we have detained numerous individuals."

All of the operations, according to Delgado, will help secure the area making it safer for troops operating in the area and the people who live there.

"Generally, the response from the populace has been positive," Delgado said.

"The good people of Iraq know we are conducting operations to secure them and disrupt insurgent activities. They want to help us and try to provide assistance by giving us information."

"This operation is another opportunity to demonstrate to the populace how we are here to help," Delgado said.

Helicopters exchange fire with insurgents

Special to the Frontline

KALSU, Iraq – Coalition Forces aircraft killed an insurgent and wounded another June 26 south of Baghdad.

Two AH-64 Apache helicopters with Multi-National Division – Center's 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade received small arms fire from a building. The helicopters engaged the insurgents with 30 mm rounds.

Paratroopers from the 2nd Battalion, 377th Parachute Field Artillery Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, were called to search the building and immediate area for insurgents.

The wounded insurgent was taken to a local hospital for treatment. He will be taken into custody by the Iraqi army.

Apaches destroy IEDs

MND-C Public Affairs

BAGHDAD –Video footage of Apache helicopters firing on improvised explosive devices is available on request from the Digital Video and Imagery

Distribution System by calling (678) 421-6604 or by accessing the DVIDS Web site <http://www.dvidshub.net/>.

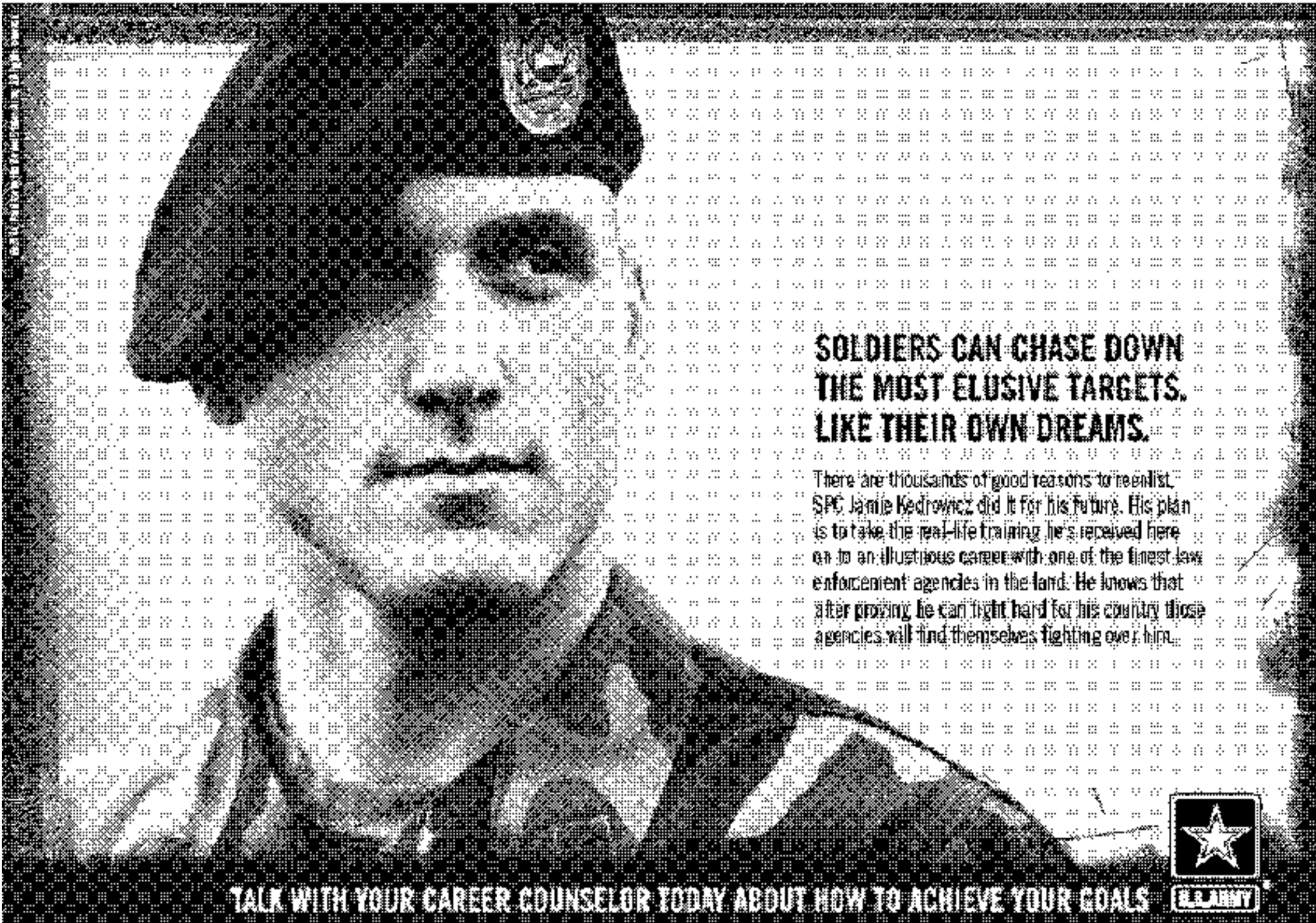
The Apaches fired its 30-mm cannon at tires placed across the road by anti-Iraqi forces. Insurgents burn the

tires to make a hole in the pavement to place IEDs. Scenes include tires that have been placed in a road, the tires being destroyed by Apache aircraft and secondary explosions from IEDs.



Get news from the front. Watch the 3rd Infantry Division's 30 minute newscast "Freedom Report" on the Pentagon Channel, Saturdays at 1:30 p.m. EST and Sundays at 11:30 p.m. EST. View news from the front and local at www.stewart.army.mil






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TALK WITH YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR TODAY ABOUT HOW TO ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS



Chemal Company takes dose of HAZMAT training

Sgt. Jason Stadel
2nd BCT Public Affairs

For the last three weeks members of the 92nd Chemical Company have been training on scenarios that deal with hazardous materials. The training took place at "Camp Victory" in the Fort Stewart training area. During the training, the Soldiers of the company had to react to situations in a chemical environment such as identifying the type of HAZMAT or removing casualties from a chemical environment.

There are four steps to the training: reconnaissance, sampling, decontaminating and

recovery. In the three weeks the Soldiers trained on all four steps.

"We're just now starting to push this type of training," said 2nd Lt. Michael Tompkins, a platoon leader in 92nd Chem. "Not many people are trained on this kind of HAZMAT."

During current operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, units on the ground have been finding chemical caches and need to have HAZMAT trained Soldiers to handle them. Tompkins said after chemicals are discovered, they are repackaged and removed and then used to gather intelligence.

"We turn over the information we've found to military intelligence so they can learn what

the capabilities of the insurgents are," Tompkins said.

He added that caches of nitric acid have been found in Baghdad.

This training is new to the chemical Soldiers and will come in useful when the company deploys later in the year.

"We need a lot of practice," said Sgt. 1st Class Floyd Bennett. "It's important for us to learn how to do this now before we go to Iraq."

The training is done while the Soldiers wear self-contained breathing apparatuses and HAZMAT suits. Once the Soldiers have donned the suits they have about one-hour's worth of air.

"It tough training, it gets very hot in there and they have to be able to accomplish the mission within in the hour; no matter how hot it is outside," said Tompkins.

Tompkins estimated that Soldiers would lose about six pounds during the intensity of the training and the heat.

The company's senior enlisted Soldier, 1st Sgt. Andrea Cassells, said the training keeps the Soldiers interested in the role of chemical corps.

"Once they're out here, they get excited about the training."

"This is more realistic, Pfc. Juan Rodriguez said. "this is the best training I've had."



Photos by Sgt. Jason Stadel

Medics stabilize a Soldier after the chemical corps evacuated the "causality" from a HAZMAT environment.

EXCALIBUR

From 1A

Gallacher said unlike previous rounds fired from an artillery battery, which required multiple rounds to destroy a target, the Excalibur needs only one.

"In the past it required a barrage of rounds putting extra wear on the tube and on the Soldiers," Gallacher said.

Durden said that the new round will allow the Soldiers to fire into small areas with more accuracy.

"With a more precise munition in our arsenal, we can fire into tight spaces and hit point targets with greater consistency and less ammunition expenditure," Durden said.

Although the new round is being received with mixed reactions among the Soldiers of Battery B, the troops realize the payoff precision munitions will have for them on the

battlefield.

"The Excalibur round is a good round," said Pfc. Nicholas Brown. "It is very accurate, however, it is too early in the fielding process to determine how often we will actually use it."

Overall, the Soldiers were happy with how the Excalibur performed during its' initial field testing.

"This new round is a major step in making the Field Artillery effective at providing fire support in any environment," Durden said.

"We test fired the round on a vehicle in an open field around 14 kilometers away. The first round (was not a direct hit but) ... still achieved good effects as shrapnel struck the vehicle. The second round was a direct hit that completely destroyed the vehicle."



Soldiers decontaminate after leaving a chemical environment.



Stewart
Bows for our troops

Show your support and wish our troops a safe trip home by making a beautiful yellow bow to hang on your door 2:30 p.m. July 10 at Southern Oaks Community Center. An instructor will be present and materials supplied.

Join the shoot out

Show your skills 2:30 p.m. July 13 on the court from the free throw line and the three - point line at Southern Oaks Community Center. The person with the best overall score takes home the prize!

Board Game Mania

Bring your favorite board game and we'll play it 2-3:30 p.m. July 18 at Southen Oaks Community Center.

Back pack raffle

Enter to win a new back pack full of school supplies so you're ready for your first day back; July 23 - July 31 at Southern Oaks and Liberty Woods Community Centers.

Join the Huddles

Come talk to us 10:30-11 a.m., at neighborhood huddles. GMH will be there to listen to your ideas, issues or concerns. Help make your neighborhood a great place to live! The events are July 9 at the playground at the intersection of Victory Division and Mindoro Loop for Marne Terrace; July 11 at the playground on corner of Davis St. and Hero Rd; for Marne Homes; July 24 at the playground between St. Tropez and Fedala for Marne Woods July 26 at the playground across from Brittin Elementary for Bryan Village North.

Hunter
Join the Huddles

Be an active part of your community by attending your huddle at 10:30 a.m. July 19 at Wilson Acres and July 27 at Gannam. Share ideas, issues or concerns with GMH. Help make your neighborhood a great place to live!

Board Game Mania

Bring your favorite board game and we'll play it 2-3:30 p.m., July 19 at Ken Heller Jr. Community Center (New Gannam).

Join the shoot out

Show your skills on the court from the free throw line and the three - point line at 2:30 p.m. July 27 at New Savannah/Callaway Community Center.

Fort Stewart /Hunter Army Airfield Briefs

The Army wants your suggestions

The world keeps moving. Ideas help us stay ahead. Send your ideas to <https://ARMYSUGGESTIONS.ARMY.MIL>. For more information, contact Joyce Bailey at BaileyJM2@stewart.army.mil or 767-6300.

Go ‘Hog-Wild’ about books

Fort Stewart - Hunter Army Airfield encourages community members to join in the fun with the annual summer reading program at the installation branch libraries. The program is open to all active duty, retired military and civil service employees. All ages are welcome. A grand finale will end the program. The program runs now through mid-August. For more information, call 767-2260 at Stewart or 315-2403 at Hunter.

Change of Command slated

The Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, and Airmen of the Joint Communications Support Element will hold a change of command ceremony for Col. Thomas Hopkins as he relinquishes command to Col. John B. Morrison 10 a.m., July 12 at JCSE Element Field, 8532 Marina Bay Drive, building 861, Tampa, Fla., 33621.

The inclement weather location is Hangar 3 on Hangar Loop Circle. RSVP no later than Friday at mary.genna@jcse.mil or call 813-828-0784.

Youth swim lessons available

Fort Stewart - Hunter Army Airfield invites youth to learn how to swim, 9-10 a.m. July 6 at Bryan Village Pool on Fort Stewart and Hunter Fitness pools. The cost is \$30 per person. Register at the CYS registration office. For more information call 767-2312 at Stewart or 315-5425 at Hunter.

Stewart

Looking for NCO Recruiters

How does more money, faster promotions and assignment preference sound to you?

The recruiter team will brief all specialists through sergeants first class regarding the benefits, challenges, and qualifications of recruiting duty 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. July 10-12 at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Education Center in room 253.

Attendance by all NCOs is highly encouraged. Spouses may also attend. This briefing in no way obligates you for recruiting duty.

A personal interview following the briefing will determine qualifications. The RTR team will entertain all questions upon completion of each briefing. For more information, call (502) 626-0465.

Tech Show visits Stewart

Come see demos on the latest in innovative technology/product support and talk to knowledgeable representatives 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Aug. 7 at Club Stewart.

Refreshments will be available. The event will display the latest in computer furniture, office applications, supplies, integrated networks and

cabling solutions, laptop-ruggedized notebooks, liquid color display panels and projectors, mass storage solutions, multimedia software, and much more. For more information, call 1-866-408-5922.

Send a Soldier a magazine

Stewart-Hunter is conducting a magazine drive for deployed Soldiers. Drop-off boxes are at several locations including Army Community Services, the Family Readiness Center, the Main PX, Southern Oaks Community Center and the GMH Housing Office.

Request that the magazines be appropriate in nature. All donations will be screened. For more information, 767-0505.

Review the Army’s OCS opportunities

The next Department of the Army Officer Candidate School selection board is Sept. 17-21. The local OCS board will be Aug. 14 in bldg 253, room 1050.

The deadline for packet submission to the Mower Personnel Processing Center, bldg 208, is Aug. 7. For more information, call 767-8894.

Jordan Gym re-opens

Jordan Gym re-opens July 18 as Jordan Youth Gym operating from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday - Saturday. Jordan will be open to youth, 6th - 12th grade.

Youth 5th grade and under must be accompanied by a parent. Programs include basketball, gymnastics, tumbling, fitness and healthy choices programs.

Indoor skating and laser tag at Corkan

MWR will soon provide year-round indoor skating and laser tag in Corkan Gym for youth. As a result, the youth programs housed in Corkan Gym will transition to Jordan Youth Gym.

Youth basketball league offered

Child and Youth Services is now hosting a free summer basketball league for middle school and high school youth through July 31. For more information, call 767-4493.

Shop of the Marne closes

Shop of the Marne will be closed for the month of July. We will reopen in August with normal business hours, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays and the first Saturday of the month.

Register to ‘Walk to Iraq and Back’

The Walk to Iraq and Back continues. Teams submit walked miles monthly toward the goal of 13,000 miles. Registration and forms are available at the Family Readiness Center. For more information, contact Amy Lambert at 320-5400.

Come to Teen Night at Rocky’s

Rocky’s will be closed to Soldiers and open to teenage Family members with military IDs from 5 to 11 p.m. every Thursday night through July 26. Teens, ages 13-18, can have fun in a positive environment. For more information, call 368-2212.

Experience the world of scouting

Boy Scout Troop 454 is looking for scouts ages 10 1/2 - 18. For more information call Michelle Burkard, scoutmaster, at 369-5589 or 230-2822.

Mandatory overseas briefings

Soldiers learn about ACS programs to help in their relocation, receive packets of information on the country they are going to, and watch a short video about the country and/or duty station. Briefings take place on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month 9-10 a.m. at Army Community Service. For more information, call 767-2500.

Latin Night at Rocky’s

Come and dance to the latest and greatest Latin hits 10 p.m. to 3 a.m. Friday. The event is free to military and their dependents. Ladies enter free from 10 p.m. to midnight. Civilians \$10 per person. For more information, call 767-8715 or 368-2212.

Ultimate Fighting Championship

Join the fun and watch Silva vs. Marquardt, Ortiz vs. Evans, and Sherk vs. Franca live on Pay-per-view Saturday, 10 p.m., at Rocky’s. Free Admission. For more information, call 767-8715/368-2212.

Get Web site tech certified

Get your Web site technician certificate in only seven courses; Child Care Manager Certificate in only five courses; or Medical Transcription Certificate in only eight courses.

For more information call 408-2430; for financial aid information call 408-302; for child care information, call 408-3024. The summer quarter begins July 9.

Ft. Stewart/Hunter Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Intramural Flag Football League Sign-up
2 July- 1 Aug, 7:30am to 4pm; FS & HAAF Sport's Offices
Open to Active Duty, Family Members (18 years & older), Retirees & DA Civilians. Games begin on 6 Aug. Companies and/or individuals who are interested in participating should contact Michael Hughes at 315-4160 (HAAF) or Randy Walker at 767-8238 (FS).

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Beginner's Weightlifting Class & Hunter Fitness Center Orientation
11 July- 3 to 4pm, Hunter Fitness Center
Learn more about weight training, equipment and other programs that are offered at Hunter Fitness Center. There is no cost to participate and those who are interested can register by calling 315-2019.

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Education & Community Information Fair @ FS
17 July- 2 to 7pm, Club Stewart
Fair is a "One Stop Shopping" event ideal for new Families to Ft. Stewart. Learn more about Morale, Welfare & Recreation programs, local & private school systems, non-profit support civic organizations, plus on & off post service oriented businesses and civic organizations. Door prizes & other fun surprises!
767-4491/4493

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Cell Phones for Soldiers
The Nonprofit group "Cell Phones for Soldiers" is collecting used cell phones and using funds from the recycling of those phones to buy phone cards for our deployed troops! Cell Phones for Soldiers hopes to turn old cell phones into more than 12 million minutes of prepaid calling cards for U.S. troops stationed overseas in 2007. If you have old cell phones that you would like to donate you can do so at selected AT&T Stores.
Call 767-5113 for more info.

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Kellogg's Youth Challenge: Earn Your Stripes
Congratulations FS/ HAAF Youth! We are currently in first place among all military installations world wide in the Kellogg's Earn Your Stripes Challenge! The promotion runs through September 5th, so participation is still important. If we win, FS/HAAF will receive \$20,000 for youth sports! Completed activity cards will be entered for a drawing to win an IPOD shuffle!! Individual prizes are still being given to those who turn in completed cards to MWR staff members. Keep up the good work, you're doin' GRRREAT!!!
Info: 767-5113/5126

Sgt. Natalie Rostek
3rd HBCT Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE HAMMER, Iraq – Soldiers of the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team held an outdoor medical clinic June 27 at a school in Nahrwan. Medics set up three treatment stations under a camouflaged net surrounded by concertina wire while the 3rd Battalion, 1st Cavalry Regiment’s loud speaker broadcasted a message to villagers announcing the opportunity to receive free medical care. During the broadcast, villagers from the area began forming two lines, male and female, waiting to be seen. The separate lines were set to ensure female medics were available to see female patients. According to Maj. Leonard Mason, the emergency medicine officer for the Brigade Special Troops Battalion, the medics honor Iraqi customs. Male medics will not touch female patients unless the patients say it is okay to advance. According to Pfc. Kristina Sutton, a medic in the 203rd BSB, some patients stood in line for almost four hours. “We saw a lot of different problems,” said Capt. Se Young Um, from El Paso, Texas, pediatrician and surgeon for the 203rd Brigade Support Battalion. The medics saw other ailments such as back, stomach, head, skin and upper-respiratory problems and were able to treat those with medicine bought from a local pharmacist.

The patients were very grateful the Soldiers provided health care to their village, Sutton explained. The citizens of Nahrwan do not regularly have access to the types of medical care provided by Coalition Forces. She said most of the villagers do not have the means to seek the special medical attention needed for their exceptional conditions. “A lot of these people didn’t understand what was wrong with them or their children. They just knew they were sick,” said Sgt. 1st Class Corree Dansler, noncommissioned officer in charge of the Sgt. Robertson Aid Station on Forward Operating Base Hammer. “What they really needed was medical attention from a specialist at a hospital.”



Courtesy Photo

Villagers of Nahrwan, Iraq, line up to receive free medical care provide by medics of the 3rd HBCT Team, 3rd Inf. Div., June 27. The 3rd HBCT is a part of the Multi-National Division-Center and is conducting operations southeast of Baghdad.

Dansler said some of her patients knew what their illnesses were, but did not have the correct information to properly care for them. She felt the medics made a difference, even if it were merely giving the patients the information they needed. The mission was not just beneficial to the villagers but also to the medics who attended, Dansler explained. She further explained Soldiers were able to see that most of the people in the area are good people. “They are parents trying to take care of their children just like us,” Dansler said. Sutton felt it was a great experience. She was able to see illnesses and conditions she had never seen before. The

experience made her realize just what an American citizen might take for granted. “The smallest things we did for them made such an impact,” she said. “The opportunities are always there for (Americans) and when we give the same opportunities to them, it makes 10 times more of an impact.” At the completion of the mission, the medics had seen approximately 225 patients with a crowd still formed outside the perimeter wanting to be seen. “We were there to win the hearts and minds of the people and provide health care,” Mason said. “The impact was huge for what the mission was intended for. Overall the mission was a plus.”

Coalition Forces meet at FOB Hammer

Spc. Ben Hutto
3rd HBCT Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE HAMMER, Iraq – Leaders from the Iraqi security force, 3rd Heavy

Brigade Combat Team and the Mada’in Qada Mayor met at FOB Hammer June 27 to increase communication among the three elements. Meeting in the 3rd HBCT’s new Tactical Operations Center,



Spc. Ben Hutto

Al-Rubay’l, the mayor of Mada’in Qada, talks to the leaders of the 3rd HBCT, Iraqi security forces and fellow civic leaders of the Mada’in Qada June 27. Col. Wayne W. Grigsby, Jr., the 3rd HBCT commander, is seated to Al-Rubay’l’s right.

the group reviewed combined operations, lessons learned and future projects in the Mada’in Qada. “I’m glad we had this meeting today,” said Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., the commander of the 3rd HBCT. “We want to assist all of you in getting the help you need and we will use our contacts in Baghdad to do that.” Al-Rubay’l, the mayor of Mada’in Qada, reported that the people in his province are very supportive of Coalition Forces. He explained that he had witnessed many young men volunteering to join Iraqi security forces so they can help expel al Qaeda from the province. “Soon they will be ready to fight and take the lead in operations,” explained Al-Rubay’l through a translator. “The people here are willing to help themselves, but we still need support. The insurgents, we must admit, are well equipped and have military training. They are using innocent women and children as shields. Innocent people

would become targets. American help is still needed.” Grigsby explained that he would provide aid to the people of Mada’in Qada. “I’m glad to hear that the people of the Qada are tired of terrorist like al Qaeda and JAM (Jayash Al Madi),” said Grigsby. “The people here are standing up and saying they are tired of putting up with bullies and thugs that do not care about the will of the Iraqi people. I applaud them for that.” Lt. Col. Ryan J. Kuhn, complimented the Qada Mayor for his government’s work to refurbish the Al Bawi water pump station. The pump station was sabotaged in early-March, prior to the arrival of the 3rd HBCT. When fully-operational, the pump station provides more than 90 percent of the water needed in the Mada’in Qada. “Under the guidance of the mayor, we are almost done with the project,” said Kuhn, the deputy commander of the 3rd HBCT. “The pumps are almost up and ready.

This is good, but it also makes the station a target. It has to be protected.” Brigadier General Hassan, the commander of the 1st Battalion, 1st Brigade Iraqi national police, agreed with Kuhn’s assessment. “The pump station is very vital, so of course we will guard it,” said Hassan. All parties involved in the meeting agreed to a police recruitment drive that has been scheduled to run from the middle of July until the end of August. Grigsby praised 1st Iraqi national police Brigade’s recent involvement in Operation Blore Heath II. “We really went into where the insurgents are,” said Grigsby. “They (insurgents) are no longer operating normally in this area.” Near the end of the meeting, Grigsby expressed how pleased he was with the discussions that took place. He expressed that he was looking forward to the next meeting in several weeks.

3/1 Cav. leaders meet with local sheiks

Sgt. Natalie Rostek
3rd HBCT Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE HAMMER, Iraq – Leaders from the 3rd Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment met with local town leaders at the Bismaya Range Complex June 26 to discuss projects and security issues. Col. Fadhil Abbas, the Bey May Eagles commander, held the meeting to talk with the local leaders or shieks on ways to improve relationships among the Coalition Forces, and also how to help facilitate projects in their communities.

“In working with the Iraqi army and Iraqi police and gentlemen like you, I think the future can be brighter. There is so much that can happen with cooperation,” said Lt. Col. John Kolasheski, the 3/1 Cav., 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team’s squadron commander, addressing the group. During the meeting, sheiks and 3/1 Cav. leaders separated into two groups to discuss security and projects. Soldiers received information about where certain threats were coming from within the area in the security meeting. “I will give you all the information you

need because I am in so much pain about my area,” a sheik said through a translator. Soldiers and sheiks discussed plans to rebuild schools and youth centers, repave roads, and fix water problems in the projects meeting. “We started delivering water to them, which was a short-term fix to a long-term water problem,” said Capt. Damond Davis, 3/1 Cav.’s fire support officer. “The long-term fix is to repair the pump stations.” After the individual meetings, the groups came together to asses their progress.

Cooperation between the Iraqi citizens, Iraqi security forces, and Coalition Forces is like building a house, Abbas said. A foundation must be set, said Abbas, and similar meetings are the foundation to bettering the future. Approximatley 50 sheiks attended a previous meeting to discuss similar issues in their communities. Security must be maintained to facilitate project completion, concluded those who attended the previous meeting. If threats continue, than projects will be dropped, they all concurred, Davis said.

HUNTER

From page 1A

Those experiences include service as the Aide de Camp to the commanding general of U.S. Army Special Operations Command, and later as Chief of Staff for the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force in Afghanistan. He said management skills from his special operations background are applicable in the garrison environment, as well as the field. His guiding theme continues to be people –service-members from all military branches, Family members, civilian employees and retirees. His leadership style remains anchored in Army values — to always do the right thing — and he holds leaders accountable for their subordinates and expects them to know and provide for their needs, taking initiative in their coaching and mentoring. “The common flavor of management is to influence and empower people to do remarkable things,” Whitney said, “In doing that, you breed initiative.” Whitney said he expects Hunter’s staff to work diligently to accomplish the installation’s ultimate mission:

- Maintaining Hunter’s power projection platform capability and ancillary support to the Port of Savannah
 - Taking care of Soldiers and their Families
 - Taking care of civilian employees through enrichment and job training programs
 - Continuing to revitalize the infrastructure of Hunter
- “We should ask ourselves daily what we’ve done to accomplish these goals,” he said. “If we don’t add value to our mission, we fail.” And Whitney has little tolerance for failure. “I’m an eternal optimist,” he said, “with no room for pessimism. Frustration is no reason to deviate from the mission. It wastes time, energy and keeps you from doing the job you’re getting paid to do.” As a “hands on,” leader, Whitney has been involved in all aspects of joint service operations on Hunter, as well as those with his civilian staff and community leaders off post, according to James Dean, Hunter Army Airfield garrison operations officer. “He truly cares about people and the mission,” said Dean, adding, that his attitude is transmitted to those

around him. “He dominates a room when he enters it.” Whitney doesn’t seek dominance but honesty from his staff and a culture where people aren’t afraid to “tell the king he’s has no clothes on,” a comment he made referring to the fairy tale, ‘The Emperor’s New Clothes.’ He said there’s no room for individualism while serving our nation. There’s only room for doing what’s good for the organization. Whitney is pleased to live in Savannah and where the local community supports Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield more than any place he’s lived. “Savannah is unique,” he said. “It provides good will from true patriots and has a corporate flavor that supports servicemembers and their Families, whatever their needs.” Whitney said he also looks forward to sharing Savannah’s southern charm with his wife, Maj. Erin Whitney, commander of D Company, 9th Psychological Operations Battalion (Airborne) who said she will visit Savannah occasionally when she’s not at Fort Bragg, N.C., where she is currently stationed.

Officer helps keep Aviation Brigade informed

Pfc. Monice Smith
CAB Public Affairs

BAGHDAD, Iraq – Standing in front of roughly 200 Soldiers from 603rd Aviation Support Battalion at Camp Buering, Kuwait, a slim female figure raises her voice for quiet.

Beside her, butcher paper is covered with phonetically spelled Arabic words.

The class on Arabic language, history and culture is about to begin, and 2nd Lt. Heather Wilson, military intelligence officer for the 603rd ASB, Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, wants to make sure everyone hears what she has to say.

“My hope is that every Soldier, every small interaction, can be a positive one,” said Wilson. “I think that it’s so important to learn the culture when you go to that country.”

Sgt. Kelvin Cooley, 603rd ASB military intelligence non-commissioned officer in charge.

After taking an Arabic college class, Wilson began studying Arabic on her own time. She is often found at her desk with an Arabic language primer developing her skills on this language.

“She’s really dedicated and always willing to learn and she takes initiative,” said Sgt. Kelvin Cooley, 603rd ASB military intelligence non-commissioned officer in charge.

“Arabic is probably one of the hardest languages to learn beside Farsi or Urdu.”

Despite being described as a dedicated military intelligence officer, Wilson’s varied life didn’t necessarily point to that vocation.

Raised in Lusby, Md., Wilson didn’t set out to become an Army MI officer.

“Actually, I wanted to be an astronaut, as cheesy as that sounds,” she said.

As a small child she lived near Cape Canaveral’s Kennedy Space Center. A tour of the complex hooked her on the concept of flying in space and piloting in general.

“Later I re-evaluated my skills and how clumsy I was,” she joked. “Five concussions later, I decided that I shouldn’t be a pilot.”

The intrepid young girl turned to art, only to become a professional painter as a pre-teen. Completing her first oil painting at 12, Wilson entered it into several art shows where she won honorable mentions and notoriety.

After selling several paintings locally, Wilson, who was 16 and attending Patuxent High School in Maryland, retired as a professional painter. Creating art wasn’t challenging enough, she said, and she was looking for something that tested her limits.

Wilson attended college at Colorado State University at

Fort Collins, Co. The first of her Family to go to college, she set her sights on the Army and, specifically, military intelligence. Both of her parents were enlisted in the Navy, but Wilson said that isn’t why she wanted to become an Army officer.

She wanted to be an Army officer because it seemed like it would be as much of a challenge as she could handle.

“I love that the Army is hard for me. I love that,” she said. “You definitely learn your limits.”

Lt. Col. Adrian Farrall, commander, 4th Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment, 3rd CAB, was Wilson’s battalion commander in the Military Science course at Colorado State and remembers the young cadet who thrived on challenges.

“She was a great student and a great cadet,” he said. “She took a full course load and her cadet work, but she was more than able to deal with it.”

On top of coursework and cadet studies, Wilson volunteered as a sexual assault and rape counselor at the school.

“She powered right through any challenges she faced,” Farrall said.

For officers the job you wish to get is not necessarily the job the Army wants you to have. Wilson’s goal was to become a military intelligence officer, and her mentors wanted the same for her.

“All five branches of the military revolve around those guys on the ground kicking in the doors,” said Wilson about the ground troops fulfilling the Army’s daily mission in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Wilson knew intelligence and operations went hand-in-hand.

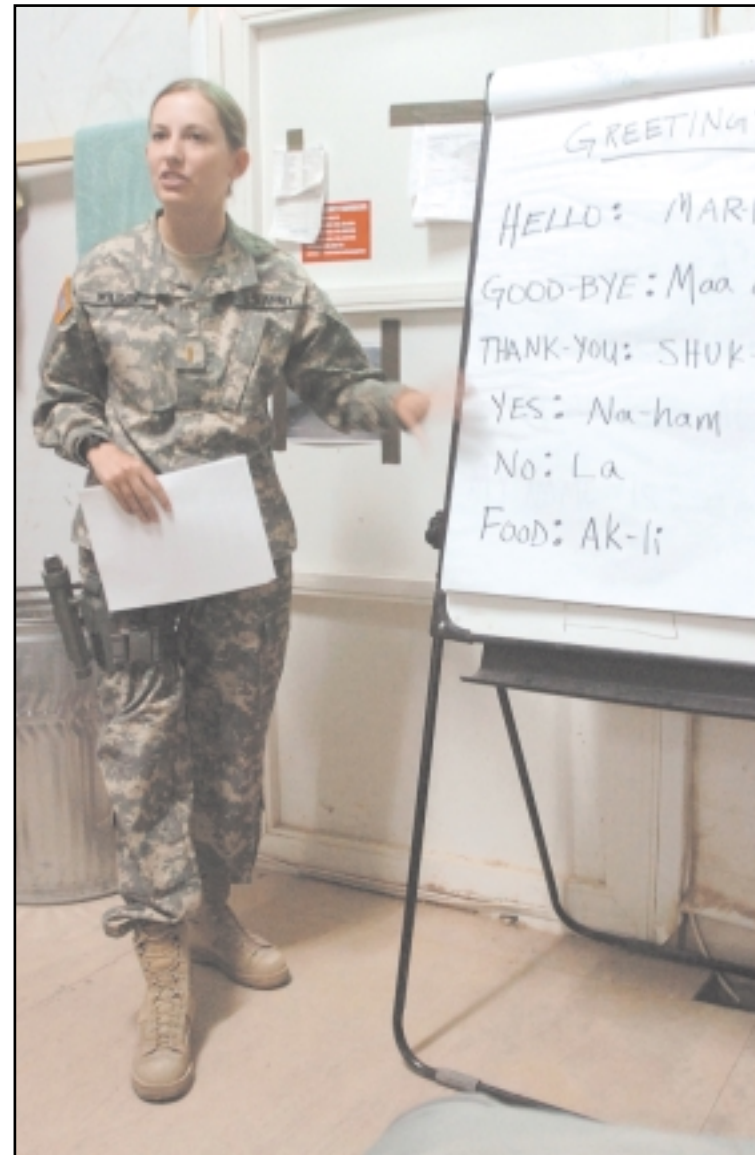
“I wanted to be a part of that,” she said.

She was also looking toward the future. Knowing she would deploy to the Middle East once she was commissioned, she began studying Arabic and Middle Eastern culture in college. Using that knowledge helped her to become a military intelligence officer.

“I’m really lucky I got to do something I have such a passion for,” Wilson said. “I’m glad I had good mentors to steer me in the right direction.”

Since joining the ranks of the 3rd Infantry Division’s Combat Aviation Brigade after being commissioned in May 2006, Wilson has proven MI was the right choice.

“(Wilson) brings enthusiasm, technical expertise, learned from her intelligence courses, and a tremendous work ethic and an extreme willingness to listen and learn which I personally feel is one of the most important traits for a young officer,” said Lt. Col. William McGarrity, the 603rd ASB commander.



Pfc. Monica Smith

Second Lt. Heather Wilson, military intelligence officer for the 603rd ASB, CAB, teaches a class on Arabic language, history and culture at Camp Buering, Kuwait.

Because the 603rd ASB is a support unit, Wilson’s work centers on ground intelligence, whereas the other battalions maintain an air focus, McGarrity said. She provides route and enemy analysis which allows the support unit to understand, from a ground role, what the enemy is doing and is most likely going to do. She also works with the brigade intelligence elements to keep the 603rd ASB informed.

Wounded Soldier honored at Winn

Sgt. Jason Stadel

Retired Command Sgt. Maj. Raymond Egan and the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division, Outpost Marne presented Spc. Richard Smith, B Company 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team with a 3rd Inf. Div. sweat-suit June 28 at Winn Army Community Hospital.

Smith, 21, sustained five gun shot wounds to both his legs while in Iraq. This is Smith’s second deployment and he was less than a month into it before being wounded.

Command Sgt. Maj. MacArthur Dixon, 3rd Inf. Div. rear detachment command sergeant major was also there during the presentation.

Smith, an infantryman from Lakeville, Minn., said he was “really lucky, (the bullets) didn’t hit any bones or nerves.”



Command tests new gun shot location system

Spc. Andrew Orillion
USJFCOM Public Affairs

NORFOLK, Va. – A technology tested by U.S. Joint Forces Command designed to locate enemy combatants by the sound of their weapons is ready for testing in a combat environment, according to USJFCOM officials.

ShotSpotter, a technology that could help locate insurgents by zeroing in on the sound of their gunfire is making great strides, according to the USJFCOM Joint Intelligence Directorate's Ted Ferrazano.

The ShotSpotter system is an acoustic gun and mortar detection system that uses sound triangulation to detect and locate the origin of weapons' fire from a variety of small arms and crew-served weapons, added Ferrazano.

On the battlefield, ShotSpotter works by combining input from individual sensors worn by troops, sensors on mobile units, and sensors in fixed locations to triangulate the origin of small arms fire. The information is conveyed to a laptop or PDA, which will show the location of the shot on a digital map in near-real time.

In today's battlefield, ShotSpotter can prove invaluable, Ferrazano added.

"Especially in an urban environment where you have all types of noise and it may not be clear in the heat of battle where the shots are coming from, ShotSpotter will tell you so you can react accordingly to the direction of the gun fire," Ferrazano said.

Originally designed for use in law enforcement, military use of the product has come about only recently and with the help of USJFCOM, who has been evaluating ShotSpotter since 2004, Ferrazano said.

After initial evaluation, USJFCOM suggested some improvements to ShotSpotter. One improvement, integration of the 'Cursor on Target' data interoperability schema, allows ShotSpotter data to be shared better and faster with other dissimilar sensors over a network, Ferrazano said.

USJFCOM also prompted development of a number of filters that allows ShotSpotter to distinguish between small arms fire and the copious amount of background noise that exists in an urban environment.

"ShotSpotter is currently being evaluated by the Army

Research, Engineering and Development Center" and vetted by the Army Counter-sniper Integrated Concept Development Team, said Ferrazano who also said the system will be further tested during Empire Challenge, an exercise designed to demonstrate and evaluate intelligence gathering techniques and technology for joint and coalition warfighting operations, at China Lake, Calif. in July.

Earlier tests by law enforcement agencies showed a 90 percent accuracy rate for ShotSpotter, Ferrazano said.

The ShotSpotter system is currently in use with the police forces of over a dozen U.S. cities and with federal agencies such as the FBI and U.S. Attorney's office. On the military side, U.S. Air Force security forces are employing ShotSpotter in a forward operating base defense role.

"We want to leverage the flexibility of the ShotSpotter system, to broaden its target detection aperture," Ferrazano said.

"Integrating the ability to detect not just the sound of a gun shot, but also the muzzle flash as well, as the next near term improvement to the system."

APACHE

From Page 1A



"We can crash it, reset it and go try it again," he said. "There's certain things we can't do in an actual aircraft. With the simulator, we can test pilots on fires, engine failures, mechanical failures of the tail rotor and so forth."

Thomason and other members of the 8/229th Avn. traveled to Hunter from their Reserve unit based in Fort Knox, Ky to use the LCT.

"We're transitioning from the Alpha to the Delta model Apache," said Thomason.

"We do not have a Longbow Crew Trainer assigned to us yet so we coordinated through 3rd Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment to come down here."

When there is a problem with the simulator, the Soldiers turn to the civilians who maintain the simulator.

The civilian technicians maintain the equipment and stand-by while the Soldiers are training should any problems arise.

"We're here to help the Soldiers," said Royal Meservy, LCT maintenance technician. "We know how to run the simulator systems. I know what to do if something is wrong with one of the displays or with the keypads. We do test flights everyday to be sure the simulator is working properly."

The LCT, like the Soldiers and their aircraft, has to be able to perform in harsh conditions. According to Rick Winberly, lead technician, the simulator currently at Hunter and one



Warrant Officer Mike Meador, a Reserve Apache Pilot with 8/229th Avn. from Fort Knox, Ky. sits at the gunner's seat in the Longbow Crew Trainer at Hunter. Meador and other Soldiers from the 8/229th came to Hunter to refresh their skills and use the LCT for gunnery.

headed to Fort Campbell and then Fort Knox have been to Iraq.

Having the LCT in Iraq and state-side is a valuable training asset.

"It keeps our gunnery skills up," said Thomason. "Ammunition is expensive, and the bulk of the ammunition is being sent to the different

theaters (of operation) for usage. There are also data bases for Iraq and other areas. We can go fly the area and have a general idea of what it looks like. We can do mission planning and practice our tactics in those areas. That's where it pays off heavily."

Photos by Nondice Powell
Chief Warrant Officer Scott Haley looks on as Chief Warrant Officer Kevin Slinker runs the training scenarios at the Longbow Crew Trainer at Hunter.

Joelyn Parkle
Attorney at Law
FIREWORKS
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Education Matters

Troops, Spouses to Teachers rep visits Stewart

Bill Kirkland, program manager for the Georgia Troops to Teachers Program and Georgia Spouses to Teachers Program will be available at 11 a.m., July 25. He will answer questions regarding the Georgia Troops to Teachers Program. It provides eligible servicemembers up to \$10,000 for becoming public school teachers. Under the Spouses to Teachers Programs, eligible military spouses may be reimbursed for the cost of state required certification tests up to a total of \$600. Call 1-800-745-0709 or 767-8331 for more information.

Tuition assistance deadline announced

All course enrollments with start dates through Sept. 30 must be requested in GoArmyEd before Sept. 24. This is necessary due to year-end close-out and fiscal year “change-over”. Attempts to enroll in courses after Sept. 24 will not be approved. This policy applies to all Soldiers applying in the GoArmyEd system for LOI schools, not EArmyU schools. This does not apply to schools where tuition is reimbursable. For more information or clarification, call the Sgt. 1st. Class Paul R. Smith Education Center at 767-8331.

\$4500 tuition available for Soldiers

All active duty members have \$4500 per fiscal year for education. This entitlement is separate from the Montgomery GI Bill benefits available from the Veteran's Administration. Details are available at 1:30 p.m., Monday – Friday, during a one hour brief at the education center, room 223. The **www.goarmyed.com** Web site provides 24-hours, 7-days-a-week virtual access for Soldiers. Our education counselors are available to assist in educational goal setting and advising.

Georgia HOPE Grant offered

The HOPE Grant is money given by the state of Georgia to students with financial need to attend vocational/trade schools. The grant covers certificate and diploma programs. Any Soldier or Family member of a Soldier who is stationed in Georgia may be eligible. If you are interested in attending a Georgia vocational or trade school, inquire with your school's financial advisor or visit the Army Education Center to speak with a counselor.

Spouses get more MGIB benefits

The Secretary of the Army has approved the transfer of up to 18 months of MGIB benefits to spouses as a pilot program. This program became effective July 21, 2006.

The program is bound by law to the retention of critical skills. Eligible Soldiers must have enrolled in MGIB on Department of Defense Form 2366 upon entry to active duty. If you cannot locate your DD Form 2366, check your official Military Personnel File or go online to Army Knowledge Online for details. Your education counselor can assist you with information about your MGIB benefits. Please contact your unit retention career counselor for details.

Central Texas College offers scholarships

The Central Texas College Foundation office has more than 100 scholarships available to students.

These scholarships are not just for students at the Central Campus, but many of these scholarships are available for students attending one of Central Texas College's World Wide Campus. Filling out a single application will give students the opportunity to be considered for all of their available scholarships. For more information, call the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Education Center at 767-8331.

College term dates announced

Central Texas College, Aug. 13 - Oct. 6, 767-2070 at Stewart, 315-4090 at Hunter. *Columbia College*, now - July 25, Aug. 13 - Oct. 6, 767-5336 at Stewart, 352-8635 at Hunter. Embry

Riddle, Aug. 6 - Oct. 7, 767-3930 at Stewart, 352-5252 at Hunter. *Savannah Tech*, July 9 - Sept. 19, 408-2430 at Stewart. *Webster University*, Aug. 13 - Oct. 11.

Savannah Tech offers child care

Child care is available at the Airport Road Hinesville campus. Please contact Natasha Brown at 408-3024 ext 6026 for more details.

Take advantage of education programs

Soldiers and civilians can take advantage of the HOPE grant and tuition with education opportunities available at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Education Center and local institutions.

Available programs include Website Technician Certificate in only two courses; Child Care Manager Certificate with only five courses; and Medical Transcription Certificate with only eight courses. For more information contact the education center at 408-2430. In addition, child care information is available at 408-3024.

College testing offered

Columbia College is now providing our college testing services. More than 70 CLEPs and DSSTs are computer based for immediate results. CLEP/DSST testing is free to Soldiers and costs vary from \$80 to \$100 per test for civilians. Columbia will also be the test proctor for all college distance learning tests. There is a \$20 fee for registration. Call 767-7558 for more information.

Join us for an educational coffee

Join our counselor with your educational questions or concerns at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Education Center for an educational coffee at 9:15 July 10. The coffees are usually offered the first Tuesday of each month. Army Education Counselors are available Monday through Friday for individual sessions. Call 767-8331 for more information.

DES Spotlight

Obey area warnings for safety, secuicity

Special to the Frontline

The Directorate of Emergency Services, Conservation Law Enforcement Branch spends a great deal of time each year conducting extended surveillance operations in an effort to deter illegal entry by trespassers into permanently restricted areas of Fort Stewart.

Approximately 50,000 acres of Fort Stewart have been designated as restricted areas. These areas include the Red Cloud Range complex, the artillery impact area, explosive ordnance disposal area, small arms impact areas, B-1 demolition area, Luzon Range, aerial gunnery ranges and all other range floors.

These areas are off-limits to the public in order to provide a safe training environment for Soldiers. They are also off limits due to the possibility of unexploded ordnance existing within these areas posing a potential threat to the safety of unauthorized entrants.

Conservation officers routinely encounter three types of trespassers in restricted areas. One type of trespasser is the uninformed sportsman or outdoors enthusiast who is unaware that they have entered a restricted area.

Sportsmen are expected to familiarize themselves with areas that are restricted by using various maps that illustrate these areas prior to going afield. These maps may be obtained from the Pass and Permit Office.

Familiarization with the locations of restricted areas decreases the chance of an errant sportsman entering such an area, thereby avoiding a dangerous situation for the sportsman and decreasing the likelihood of training downtime for Soldiers training within the area. Signs have been posted around the boundaries of restricted areas. However, it is the responsibility of the sportsman to know the locations of restricted areas.

A second, more elusive type of trespasser is the illegal poacher who knowingly enters restricted areas for the purposes of hunting or fishing. These trespassers are breaking federal and state laws as well as Fort Stewart regulations by entering restricted areas for

the purpose of harvesting fish or game.

Poaching in restricted areas of a federal military installation is a serious crime and may lead to federal prosecution for offenses including criminal trespass and Lacey Act violations. Penalties for committing these crimes are severe and may result in large fines and incarceration.

The third type of trespasser encountered by CLE officers is the salvage collector. These individuals enter into restricted areas for the purpose of collecting both fired and unfired munitions as well as parts from target vehicles that have been placed on the ranges.

These individuals amass metal parts from target vehicles and collect spent cases and projectiles from range areas. These items are then sold to scrap metal yards for a profit. Some subjects have even been apprehended while collecting unfired or unexploded ordnance with the intent of firing or detonating these munition.

After contact has been made with a subject that has entered a restricted area it becomes the responsibility of the CLE officer to ensure that all parties are escorted out of the area in a safe manner. In some cases, personnel from the explosive ordnance division may have to be contacted to clear an exit route of potentially hazardous debris. In the past six months, fifteen individuals have been apprehended and cited for trespass into restricted areas, but due to the vigilance of the CLE officers, there has been no reported downtime this year resulting from the discovery of trespassers in restricted areas.If an individual becomes aware that they have inadvertently entered one of the restricted areas of Fort Stewart, it is imperative that they exit the area as soon as possible.

The individual should not collect, touch, kick, or otherwise disturb any metallic or unnatural objects found within the restricted area, as these objects may be some type of unexploded ordnance that may be detonated if disturbed.

To report suspected violators who are trespassing in restricted areas, call the CLE branch office at 767-7577 or the MPs at 767-4895.



Teen Summer Transportation Schedule

All riders must be registered and have completed hold harmless agreements filed with Child Youth Services.

Parents may register their children for this service any evening at the Fort Stewart or Hunter Army Airfield youth centers seven days a week from 2 to 8 p.m. or at either CYS registration office Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Registration is free.

For more information call Stewart 767-4491, Hunter 315-6075.

Fort Stewart Schedule

Running through August 5 - no service on federal holidays

	Mon-Sat	Mon-Sun	Mon-Sun
Bryan Village Youth Center			
	11am	3pm	6pm
Liberty Woods (Corner of Wild Fern & Liberty Woods)			
	11:05am	3:05pm	6:05pm
Liberty Woods (corner of Jasmine Ave & Liberty Woods)			
	11:10am	3:10pm	6:10pm
GMH Southern Oaks Community Center			
	11:20am	3:20pm	6:20pm
Bryan Village South (Corner of Argle & Rogers)			
	11:25am	3:25pm	6:25pm
Isenhower Homes (Corner of Liberty & Harrich)			
	11:35am	3:35pm	6:35pm
School Age Services			
	11:40am	3:40pm	6:40pm
Coastal Ridge (Corner of Victory & Audie Murphy Way)			
	11:45am	3:45pm	6:45pm
Marne Lanes			
	11:50am	3:50pm	6:50pm
Corkan Family Recreation Area			
	12pm	4pm	7pm

Hunter Schedule

Running through August 5 - no service on federal holidays

	Mon-Sat	Sun Only	Mon-Sun
GMH Community Center (Gannam Ave in Wilson Acres)			
	11:30am	3:15 pm	6:30pm
GMH Community Center (Calloway Ave in New Savannah)			
	11:15am	3:00 pm	6:45pm
Hunter Fitness Center			
	11:45am	3:30 pm	6:15pm
Youth Center, Bldg 1289 (Haley Ave)			
	12:00pm	3:45 pm	6:00pm

Ask the Judge Legal gives guidance on adoption

Special to the Frontline

Although the state of Georgia has many types of adoptions available, ranging from private adoptions to adult adoptions, one of the most common is the adoption of a child by a step-parent.

The state governs whether an adoption can occur and what requirements must be met by the adoptive parent. To adopt a child, a person can file a Petition for Adoption in the Superior Court of the county the person lives in. This article will cover some of the common questions or concerns during a step-parent adoption.

Question: *Who may adopt?*

Answer: To adopt a child, a person must meet the following criteria: the adoptive parent must have lived in Georgia for at least six months before filing the petition, must be at least 10 years older than the child, must be at least 25 years old or married and living with a spouse, and must have the money, health and mental ability to take care of a child.

Q: *Will someone come to look at my home if I adopt a child?*

A: If adopting a step-child or a relative, the court can elect or waive the home inspection based upon a variety of factors.

However, if you are adopting a non-relative through an adoption agency, then the court will order a home inspection to make sure that everything you said in the Petition for

Adoption is correct.

Q: *What rights do the legal or biological parents have?*

A: Under Georgia law, there are two types of parents: the legal parents and the biological parents. Legal parents have more rights than biological parents, however, a biological parent can also become a legal parent. A legal father is someone who was married to the birth mother at the time of conception or birth, married to the mother after the child's birth but has recognized the child as his own, has adopted the child, has been determined by a court to be the father through a paternity order or is the biological father who has petitioned the court for legitimating to make him the legal father and the court has agreed. The biological father is the man who impregnated the biological mother. Before an adoption can occur, a reasonable attempt to notify the biological father must be made. The biological father has 30 days to file a Petition of Legitimate with the court to become the legal father. The biological father must also notify the lawyer involved in the adoption that he has filed the Petition to Legitimate to become a legal parent.

Q: *What is the benefit of being the legal parent?*

A: The legal parent has the right to agree to the adoption and surrender their parental rights. The legal parent has 10 days from when he surrenders his rights to the child to change his mind. The legal parent also has the right to oppose the adoption and assert his rights over the child. The court can still take

away a legal parent's rights if it finds that the adoption is in the best interest of the child, the parent has abandoned the child, the parent cannot be found after a careful search, the parent is insane or unable to agree to the adoption, the parent has not used good parental care and is unable to be a proper parent, the parent has failed to communicate in a meaningful way with the child for a year, or the parent has failed to provide support for the child for a year.

Q: *Can a child decide to be adopted or not?*

A: A child must agree to the adoption if he or she is 14 years or older. The agreement must be in writing by the child and the judge may ask the child to appear at the final hearing to show the judge he or she agrees to be adopted.

Q: *Are there any benefits of adoption?*

A: An adoptive parent may receive some tax benefits for the adoption. Additionally, by adopting a special needs child, a parent may be eligible to receive some assistance from the government to care for the child. The Legal Assistance JAG office can assist with step-parent adoptions in helping a Soldier file a prose action when the legal and biological parents have surrendered their rights and will sign a waiver of those rights. Additionally, the interests of a potential adoptive parent and any of the current legal or biological parents could be separate. All other adoptions will require hiring a private adoption attorney to represent the potential adoptive parent in court.



Private Tracey L. Thomson, 26th BSB, convicted at General Court-Martial; conspiracy to commit a larceny, destruction of military property, larceny, housebreaking, unlawful entry; reduced to E-1, confinement for nine months, bad conduct discharge.

Private Dacia A. Arthur, 1st BCT, convicted at General Court-Martial; AWOL, indecent liberties with a child, indecent exposure; confined for 18 months, dishonorable discharge.

Specialist Donald C. Woolfolk, Combat Aviation Brigade, Hunter Army Airfield, convicted at General Court-Martial; indecent acts with a child under the age of 16; reduced to E-1, confinement for 15 months, bad conduct discharge.

Private Patrick T. Stewart, 1st BCT, convicted

at General Court-Martial; desertion, AWOL; Confinement for 20 months, reduced to E-1 dishonorable discharge.

Private Aaron A. Sciortino, 1st BCT, convicted at Special Court-Martial; desertion; reduced to E-1, confined for 10 months, bad conduct discharge.

Specialist Christopher L. McNeill, 1st BCT, convicted at General Court-Martial; desertion; reduced to E-1, confined for 9 months, dishonorable discharge.

Private First Class Ricky C. Hill, 1 BCT, convicted at Special Court-Martial; desertion to avoid hazardous duty; reduced to E-1, confinement for six months, bad conduct discharge.

Staff Sergeant Keith D. Bowser, 4th BDE, convicted at Special Court-Martial; wrongful use of cocaine; reduced to E-5, forfeiture of \$1,300 pay per month for 2 months, hard labor for 45 days, restricted for 45 days.

Legal Notices

Anyone having claims against, or who is indebted to the estate of **Maj. Sid W. Brookshire**, HHC, 1/64 Armor Battalion, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, contact Capt. Tommie J. Andrews, Rear deattachment commander, 1/64 Armor Battalion, Fort Stewart Ga. 31314, by phone at 320-5259.

Anyone having claims against, or who is indebted to the estate of **Staff Sgt. Darren Hubbell**, HHC 1/64 Armor Battalion, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, contact Capt. Tommie J. Andrews, Rear detachment commander, 1/64 Armor Battalion, Fort Stewart Ga. at 320-5259.

Anyone having claims against, or who is indebted to the estate of **Spc. Joe G. Charfauros**, B Co., 1/64 Armor Battalion, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, contact Capt. Amanda Carter, 26th Brigade Support Battalion, Fort Stewart Ga. at 659-3737.

Anyone having claims against, or who is indebted to the estate of **Pfc. David J. Bentz III**, B Co., 1/64 Armor Battalion, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, contact Capt. Amanda Carter, 26th Brigade Support Battalion, Fort Stewart Ga. at 767-3737.

Anyone having claims against, or who is indebted to the estate of **Pfc. Larry Parks**, D Co., 1/30 Infantry, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, contact Capt. Christopher Botterbusch, 2/3 BTB rear detachment, Fort Stewart Ga. at 767-5370.

Anyone having claims against, or who is indebted to the estate of **Pfc. Joshua Modgling**, Co. E, 1/30 Infantry, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, contact Capt. Christopher Botterbusch, 2/3 BTB rear detachment, Fort Stewart Ga. at 767-5370.